

CONSTITUTION MAY GO DOWN IN DEFEAT

Gov. Sloan Says Arizonians
Must Defeat It or Con-
gress Will Nullify It.

GOVERNOR BACK FROM WASHINGTON

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 21.—If there is to be no well defined line of battle upon the question of statehood and a constitution for Arizona, there is certainly going to be one of the hottest skirmishes anyone ever saw. It has started, but, of course, cannot be expected to reach its height until after the holidays.

Governor Richard E. Sloan, natural head of the Republican party by virtue of the office he holds, as well as his consummate political ability, and a genius for leadership so often displayed, has returned from Washington to start the fight. He stopped over in Tucson to confer with the party leaders there, among whom is "Himmler" Williams, a close friend of postmaster general Hitchcock.

When Gov. Sloan arrived in Phoenix, not until he had consulted his lieutenants here, did he consent to give out an interview to the press. And when he did let go, the enemy hunted his hole.

Governor Sloan was well prepared for all questions, and the manner in which he has sailed into the constitution, coming as he does direct from the president and congress, leaves no doubt in the mind of any person whose mind is open to conviction. Speaking with the weight of official Washington behind him, Gov. Sloan has declared that the constitution is to be defeated at the polls if Arizona is to achieve statehood within two decades.

Now, Gov. Sloan is well known as an Arizonian; better known as such than as a Republican or even a politician. He has been a resident of the territory for over 30 years, and he has worked consistently and persistently for its upbuilding. His friends say that no man can say that he has been actuated by any motive other than that which he has from time to time declared to be his reason for this or that action.

In view of all this, when he comes out with a statement that Washington is practically a unit on the proposition that it will have none of a state which embodies into its constitution the vicious principles of the initiative, the referendum and the recall of judges, he is believed.

Be the provisions for direct legislation vicious or otherwise, that is what Gov. Sloan believes them to be, and his tremendous personal following is therefore bound to make a big noise during the campaign and in the casting of the ballots.

The result will be known on February 9, for on that date the people are to express their pleasure in the matter. Until that time comes Arizona will claim the center of the political stage, for she is in the fight of her history.

TWO BIG FIRES IN TWO BIG CITIES

New York and Cincinnati
Have Blazes That Cause
Large Financial Loss.

FIREMEN HAVE SOME CLOSE CALLS

New York, N. Y., Dec. 21.—Thirty firemen had a narrow escape from death early this morning in a fire that destroyed the building at Hudson and Vestry streets, occupied by Joseph Liberman and company, paper manufacturers. The loss is \$75,000. A back draught caught the firemen, but all managed to get through the blazing rooms without serious injury.

Cincinnati, O., Dec. 21.—Fire in the factory district of this city early today caused damage estimated at two millions, the death of one fireman and a woman white boy, and the injury of six other firemen.

A high wind was blowing when the fire broke out and when it had been brought under control, 10 firms had been burned out and eight large buildings destroyed.

The entire block from Ninth and Sycamore streets to Broadway was swept by the flames. The firms burned out were the Krippendorff and O'Neal shoe company; the Taylor-Poole leather company, the Cahill shoe company, the Sycamore Street Stable company, the Griggs-Effinger leather company; the Victor Safe and Lock company; the warehouse of A. and J. Nurre company, picture frames and moldings, the E. O. Duncan Paper Box company, Wildberg company's factory.

SOLDIERS AND SAILORS EXPECT TO CRUSH REBELS AT ONCE

Field Pieces Are Forwarded
From Mexico City to Help
the Federals.

EXPECT TO CRUSH REBELS AT ONCE

Mexico City, Mex., Dec. 21.—The tenth battalion of infantry, a battery of light artillery and one rapid firing gun, left here Tuesday in two special trains for the zone of insurrecto activity in Chihuahua.

Another train carrying two regiments of infantry is said to have left Guadalajara last night for the same destination.

The force from this city is in command of Gen. Sanchez Rivera and Col. Rafael Lira. The train went out in two sections, one of 12 coaches and two baggage cars carrying the officers and men; the other consisting of 14 cars loaded with artillery, mules and horses of officers.

The tenth battalion contains 602 enlisted men and 22 officers.

The battery is classified as light mountain artillery and has six guns. These troops are said to be intended as reinforcements at Federnales. According to official information obtainable here the government forces are preparing to deliver a crushing blow to the insurrectos. The situation is said to be as follows:

On one side of the valley of Mal Paso (Bad Pass) is the force of Gen. Navarro, of 1000 men. Col. Guzman (wounded) is on the other side with a force of 340 troops. He is said officially not to have tried to force a way around the head of the canyon to join the troops now under command of Gen. Navarro, but instead, communicated the situation to headquarters in Chihuahua and received orders to wait for reinforcements. He is known, however, to have attempted to force his way and to have been defeated.

Troops are being hurried forward to raise the force of Col. Guzman to 1000 men and then the attack will be made from the two sides "with the purpose of wiping them out of existence."

In high official circles it is believed the rebels are now trapped and that they cannot possibly escape. The destruction of this force, it is said, will mean that there will remain no rebels in the field, with the exception of a few marauding bands of outlaws. Unprejudiced advisers from Chihuahua say the rebels are trapped.

Francisco I. Madero, the head of the insurrectionary movement, is again reported to be in Mexican territory according to a story in El Heraldico Mexicano this afternoon. The report is based upon a letter received from Chihuahua by responsible persons in this city.

Madero is said to have slipped across the border recently and to be in Ojinaga at the head of the rebels who were formerly under the command of Abraham Gonzalez.

MEXICAN FEDERALISTS LEAVE THEIR CAMP OF DEFENSE AND RETREAT

Loss To the Federals In Mal Paso Fight Is Near One Hundred Including Dead, Wounded and Missing--Victory Of Insurgents Strengthens the Insurgent Cause--Navarro Believed To Be In a Trap, Without Food and With Little Ammunition.

(By Associated Press.)

Chihuahua, Mexico, Dec. 21.—Amplified advices change but little in Tuesday's telegraphic report of the cutting up of the government troops at Mal Paso last Sunday. The official report of 21 federalists killed, 10 missing, and 42 wounded stands, with the addition that 30 slightly wounded, bringing the total injured to 72, also come on the train. The injuries of these 30 are not serious and it is not customary to carry them on the hospital lists. Most of them are on their feet.

Rumors have been abroad today that the federalists lost 100 killed, but this seems to be without foundation, and probably originally referred to the total number of killed, wounded and missing, which makes about 100. Vari- similitude is added to the government report of losses by the fact that the hospital train brought in 80 mauler rifles, or about the number which their

Mal Paso, Dec. 21.—The government troops were not killed or wounded retreated to Bustillos, which is between this city and the scene of the engagement. They wished to return here, but it was pointed out that such action probably would result in court martial, and they concluded to take a chance of joining Navarro by some overland route, hoping to elude the insurrectos.

The troop train left here Saturday morning. The night was spent at San Antonio. It had been proposed to disembark at that point, but the country looked so tranquil that it was decided to use the train a bit further. This brought the detachment to the east entrance of Mal Paso (Bad Pass). It was not intended to proceed further by train, but to take up the march here, scouting as they went. Scarcely had the process of disembarkation begun, however, when the insurrectos opened fire from the mountain tops and sides. The soldiers fought back for five hours in a fashion which does credit to their training, but they could make no impression on the hidden enemy. Their efforts to board the train again are described as disorderly—almost panicky.

Wounded Deserted.

That they brought their wounded with them is denied. It is said that under the gruelling fire this was impossible, and that the uninjured remnant took the train to save their own skins, and stopped only at Bustillos. It was another detachment, it is reported, which, hurrying to the aid of the train, found the troopers gone, and the enemy likewise. They picked up the wounded and continuing east, brought them to Bustillos. Here the wounded were placed aboard an empty freight train and sent to this city, where they arrived this morning. The wounded suffered intensely. There was but one doctor in the outfit, and no appliances, save of the most crude. One injured man died on the way in. It was only reluctantly that permission was granted to bring them here. The railroad wire works as far west as Bustillos, and permission to use the freight train was requested at 2 o'clock Monday afternoon. It was not granted until 7 o'clock. The government is said, did not relish the moral effect of bringing a large number of its own injured into the city, and timed the train to arrive after the populace had gone to sleep.

Another Fight.

The fact that the detachment which rescued the wounded found no opposition may be explained by the theory that the insurrectos, having turned back the train, hastened away to add their strength to their side of some other fight in the vicinity.

The passenger train which was due here last Thursday night and was stopped by the revolutionists remains unreported, and presumably is at Las Justas or Madera.

Call to Arms.

A circular calling to arms the people of Mexico has been sent broadcast throughout the state of Chihuahua. It is signed by Pascual Orozco, the chief of arms of the insurrectionary forces, and is dated Ciudad Guerrero, December 20.

The circular points out that the forces west of the city of Chihuahua are bearing the brunt of the attack of federal soldiers, and that it is the duty of all sympathizers to join them. It boasts of not a battle lost, and that the insurrectos are courting death for the cause. There is nothing covered in the announcement, even the name of the printer appearing on the bottom of the sheet.

Orozco, before the revolutionary disorder was a forwarding agent and storekeeper at Sanchez, a station on the Orient road. His father was a wealthy ranchman, and it is said that the father now is serving as captain under the son.

DEATH CLAIMS COL. NEFF, POWER

Early Settler of El Paso,
High Mason, Soldier of
the Civil War.

WILL BE BURIED IN CINCINNATI

Col. E. W. S. Neff, soldier, citizen, and master Mason, died Tuesday morning at 9:45, at the Neff family residence, 717 Austin street.

Funeral services will be held at the residence Friday at 10 a. m., Rev. Henry Easter, of St. Clement's Episcopal church, officiating. This will be followed by the Masonic Blue lodge anteburial services, after which the body of the deceased El Pasoan will be escorted to the union station by a company of Knights Templar. The interment will be in Cincinnati, Ohio, the birthplace of Col. Neff, in the Neff family burying ground. E. W. Neff, of the Scottish Rite, and H. A. Carpenter, of the Knights Templar, will accompany the funeral party.

Edmund Wayne Smythe Neff, the son of William and Elizabeth Wayne Neff, was born in Cincinnati on March 11, 1841. He was one of seven sons. His mother was Miss Elizabeth Clifford Wayne, a direct descendant of the Anthony Wayne family and for whom Col. Neff was named. He was married on July 18, 1866, to Miss Estelle J. Peckot, of Port Huron, Mich. Three children were born. They are Clifford A. Neff, an attorney of Cleveland, Ohio; Mrs. P. C. Searle, and Eugene E. Neff, both of El Paso.

Descendant of Anthony Wayne.

A direct descendant of "Mad" Anthony Wayne, Col. Neff had a war record which extended through the civil

DEATH LIST SAID TO BE VERY HEAVY

Reported That More Federals
Were Killed at Mal
Paso Than Admitted.

DEATH LIST SAID TO BE VERY HEAVY

Again the dead have been buried where they fell, and the people of Chihuahua do not know the actual loss in the attack at Mal Paso, when insurrectos attacked the troop train. But the arrival of the train from the disturbed district brought assurance that the federal forces must face a "horrendous" loss.

More than 70 wounded soldiers were conveyed back to the city. The engineer, a Mexican, was one of the wounded. His conductor, an American-Frenchman, named Jerry Jernard, was uninjured and received \$500 gold to make the trip, and an additional \$500 when he returned with the complete train. It is not known what the Mexican engineer received, since it is declared that he did not go voluntarily.

An attempt was made Tuesday to send more soldiers west, but no engineer could be secured. Troops still are pouring in the city, but the idea of pressing westward is not a popular one.

It is logically supposed that the insurrectos are holding the long delayed Mexico Northwestern train with the purpose of employing it for their own use. With an engine and train of cars, troops may be transported with greater speed in case of needed reinforcements at any point of the line. It also is reported on good authority that the telegraph wires were taken down by the insurrectos, not to destroy the connection, but to employ the line for their own use. One of the largest insurrectionary commands has its own private telephone system, it is said, and lays ground wires as the band proceeds off the railroad.

CLEAN BILL GIVEN SENATOR LORIMER

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—The report of the senate committee on privileges and elections in the Lorimer bribery case was today presented to the senate by senator Burrows.

The report says: "No testimony was offered which tended in the remotest degree to implicate senator Lorimer in any personal act of bribery or attempted bribery or corrupt practice of any nature."

The conclusion reached by the committee was "that in their opinion, the title of Mr. Lorimer to a seat in the senate has not been shown to be invalid by the employment of corrupt methods or practices."

The report declares that those who confessed to receiving bribes should not be believed and that the votes of those who are charged with paying bribes should be counted.

The dissenting views of senator Frazier were not filed with the report.

MORMONS IN FEAR OF BATTLE THERE

Casas Grandes Gets Report
That Lumber Camps
Have Been Taken.

MORMONS IN FEAR OF BATTLE THERE

Colonia Dublan, Chihuahua, Dec. 21.—The revolutionary news is exciting here. The report here is that El Valle has fallen into the hands of the rebels and that they are holding the place with their officers and a few of their troops. The troops that belonged to the federal army before the encounter are now rebel, it is said.

Report says also that several of the railroad camps have been taken, and the troops are expected in Casas Grandes today or tomorrow.

Confidence in Colonia Juarez has waned. There was a heavy attendance and there seems to be very little fear among the colonists, perhaps because of the many assurances they have had that the rebels are not fighting the Americans, but the Mormons did not expect them to take the railroad camps and if they have really fallen as the report says, there is danger for the colonies, all believe.

The report says that several of the soldiers at Casas Grandes and it is expected that quite a stiff fight will be made if the rebels appear. The people are well armed.

MAY RUSH TAFT MEASURES THROUGH

Republicans Are Anxious to
Clean up Calendar Before
Democrats Get in.

MAY RUSH TAFT MEASURES THROUGH

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—There is much discussion in both the capital and the white house over the outlook of the administration's legislative program. The president had indicated a strong desire, that as many as possible of the measures he recommended in his annual message be pressed through congress without delay in view of the coming change of the political complexion of the house.

It is in accordance with this policy, which the president has urged upon the senators and representatives that the appropriation bills have been rushed unprecedentedly. The regular Republicans have warned the insurrectos that they must accept the onus if they put any obstruction in the way of proposed Republican legislation.

The mail subsidy, the tariff commission plan for collating and assimilating tariff data, the Panama canal fortifications and tolls measure, and a bill to regulate the issuing of injunctions in equity without notice in accordance with the best practice in vogue in the United States courts, are all matters upon which the president especially wants action.

SITUATION ON TEXAS BORDER

Says the Alpine Guide:
The situation along the river in this section is not materially different from that as reported in these columns last week. There is some guerrilla fighting along the river and, in spite of all the precautions taken by the Mexican government to prevent it, the news leaks out that the patriots are almost invariably getting the best of it.

The most considerable scrap has been at Ojinaga, opposite Presidio. The official government report was to the effect that this fight was a draw; but reports received here agree that the regulars were very much outnumbered, and got badly worsted.

It is obvious that not only is the revolutionary cause gaining ground, and that it has the earnest, if quiet, support of the Mexican people, but that American, and especially Texas, sentiment is rapidly crystallizing into sympathy which may, at any moment, become active.

INSURRECTOS NUMBER 2000

Whereas their number at that time was not over a thousand, the official reports now put them at 2000. Navarro, on the other hand, has not grown stronger. Food has grown scarce with him. Small engagements have depleted his ammunition supply. He has been compelled to divide his force to meet the enemy at Federnales as well as Mal Paso, and to use some of his men

TAFT SIDES WITH TEXAS ON BOUNDARY

Washington, D. C., Dec. 21.—In a special message to congress, president Taft today advised the adoption of a joint resolution authorizing the amendment of that portion of the constitution of the new state of New Mexico attempting to change the boundary lines between New Mexico and Texas.

SAFE BLOWN AND ROBBED

Gilmer, Okla., Dec. 21.—Crackmen entered the general store of M. H. Owens & Company at Decker, north of here, last night and blew open the safe, escaping with the contents, which consisted of about \$200 cash and several hundred dollars in notes. The noise awoke the citizens and a posse is in pursuit.

HORSES STAMPEDED INTO TEXAS BELONGED TO REBELS

Ysleta, Texas, Dec. 21.—Capt. John R. Hughes, C. A. Craighead and H. A. Barnes have returned from Marfa. They report everything quiet and no trouble with insurrectos in that vicinity.

Sixteen horses and four mules, saddled but riderless, came over from Mexico, and people were uneasy, believing that the riders had been killed in a fight near the border, but upon investigation it was found that the insurrectos who were riding the horses sprang from them to return the shoes from the regular soldiers, and the horses, becoming frightened, stampeded and crossed the river to the American side.

The mules were loaded with packs and sabers were found strapped to a number of the horses. The animals were cut by what seemed to be barbed wire. They will be turned over to the Mexican government.

Capt. Hughes and his men were assisted in their investigations by sheriff Chastain of Marfa.

MINISTER INDICTED FOR FALSE USE OF MAILS

Boston, Mass., Dec. 21.—Rev. Norman K. Plass, former president of the Redeemable Investment company; Charles H. Brooks, manager, and John F. Traphagen, agent of the company, were indicted by the federal grand jury today for using the mails to defraud.

VETERAN OF WAR WITH MEXICO DIES

Tucson, Ariz., Dec. 21.—Augustus C. Bright, a veteran of the Mexican war, the first school teacher in Tucson, and a participant in the gold rush to California in 1849, died here this morning, after 89 years. He was born in New York in 1821, enlisted in the Second Texas mounted volunteers from Nacogdoches, Texas, for the Mexican war and saw service at Monterey under Gen. Taylor.

MANY MINERS BURIED BY AN EXPLOSION

Bolton, Eng., Dec. 21.—An explosion followed by fire occurred at Little Bolton colliery, of the Hulton Colliery company here, this morning soon after 200 miners had gone below the surface. The cause and extent of the disaster is in doubt.

The first rescue party reaching the scene brought seven men and a boy to safety and later recovered five bodies.

Smoke and gas filled the mine following the explosion and the chances of the imprisoned men escaping were made small by the wedging of the cages, which interfered with the ventilation, the rising gases being driven back upon the entombed men.

Meanwhile, the fire raged fiercely and it was supposed that many who were not killed by the noxious gases were burned to death.

Thousands of half crazed women and children surrounded the mouth of the mine and pitiful scenes familiar to coal mining disasters were enacted.

At 2 o'clock this afternoon only eight men had escaped and the outlook for the rescue of others was dubious. At that hour ten bodies had been recovered.

The fate of some 280 men still entombed remained in doubt this evening, but those who had been below in efforts to rescue expressed little hope that any more would be found alive.

For the time the lives of 700 men were in jeopardy, as the mine communicating with the one in which the explosion occurred was damaged by the shock and it was some time before its 400 occupants could be brought to the surface. One of the eight miners who have escaped alive, said the force of the explosion was such that the limbs of many were blown off.

DEAD BOY FOUND

Wagon Mound, N. M., Dec. 21.—The body of Juan Lucero, who was lost in the Turkey mountains eight days ago, was found by a body of searchers led by the boy's 9 year old sister. The body was in a good state of preservation owing to the cold and had not been molested by wild animals.

MARRIAGES OUT TO \$1.00

Youngsboro, O., Dec. 21.—Marriage ceremonies are the latest thing to go on the bargain counter. As a special inducement to sweethearts, Justice Tinsman, of this city, has advertised in the newspapers of this section of the state, announcing that he has reduced the fee for performing a marriage ceremony to \$1.00 during the holidays.

The justice adds that this must be cash.